EQYAM68.001AUS

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

pplicant

Kimura, et al.

Appl. No.

09/771,043

Filed

January 26, 2001

For

IMMOBILIZED NUCLEIC ACID

AND METHOD FOR

DETECTING NUCLEIC ACID

Examiner

Siew, Jeffrey

Group Art Unit

1637

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed January 14, 2004, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to consider the following arguments.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 2 of this paper.

Docket No.: TOYAM68.001AUS Customer No.: 20,995

RESPONSE TRANSMITTAL

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

April 12, 2004

(Date)

Che J. Cheresku

Che Swyden Chereskin, Ph.D., Reg. No. 41,466

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing in the above-identified application are the following enclosures:

- (X) Response in 3 pages.
- (X) Return prepaid postcard.
- (X) Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Che Swyden Chereskin, Ph.D.

Registration No. 41,466

Agent of Record

Customer No. 20,995

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